

hurd up what has been written on
a subject, then to rediscover all
about it; I shouldn't be surprised
at a revival of a class of bookworms
whose only business would be
to give information about what
others had written, a class arising
from opposite causes to those
that produced the erudites of old,
then there was too little to learn,
now there is too much.

With my sincerest wishes believe
me my dear Professor

Yours Truly
J. Carnell

Baths of Lucca

31 July 1834

My dear Professor.

I had half hoped you
might have been induced to cross
once more the water, and come
to Italy this spring, to assist
at the congress of botanists that
met in Florence in May. You wd
have found many friends assem-
bled there, Hooker, and Owen them, and
Anderson, and de Candolle, Bell.,
Trinca, Weddell, Clanchon, Desor,
Schimper, Brillon, and the Moores,
etc. etc., besides a host of Germans
and Russians, and Italians of course
there were above 260 of them in all,
so that it was altogether a brilliant
affair. Mr. Sarsatore, who had brought
it all about, was unfortunately
prevented from taking
a part in the proceedings, he had been
siling from rheumatic fever some time

before, at present he has quite
recovered, altho' a good deal broken
down and unable to resume his
work. I believe he is still in
Florence, altho' advised to go into
the country. I am myself here
among the mountains, partly
to rest a little from my University
work, partly on account of my
wife, who has been very ill
with a pleurisy, and is slowly
recovering. The rest of my family,
my two boys and three girls,
are all well; my eldest girl is
to go with me in September next
on a trip to London, it being
her first voyage. I intend spending
a month in London, and frequently
going to Herbaria to study natural
rare-manuscripted specimens. I
am unacquainted with, as I am
now engaged on a revision of the
natural orders for the benefit
of my students, for whose sake
I spent nearly the whole of last
winter working in cryptogamia.

I should have been very much pleased
to show my garden, and collections,
and micrographic laboratory etc. to
your friend Professor Sargent; but
you are aware he did not come
over to Pisa, but stopped at
Saris, whence he sent me your kind
letter of November up last year.
I hope that since then you have
continued well, both yourself and
Mrs. Gray. I have to thank you
for kindly continuing to send
me your valuable botanical papers,
they are doubly useful to me
as a botanist residing in a place
like Pisa, where with many adven-
turers there is still the drawback
of a very scanty allowance of
books, the whole amount there is
not above 7500 volumes. However
in one way or another it is always
possible to do some work, only
with more labour and time than
elsewhere. I don't know how
botanists will manage it in a few
generations hence, at the rate
botanical literature is increasing,
already it takes often more time to